

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 517  
By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Henry Turley upon his  
induction into the Society of Entrepreneurs.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as professionals and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Henry Turley, who has been chosen for induction into the Society of Entrepreneurs, a prestigious honor that speaks to Mr. Turley's dedication to his business and the greater Memphis community; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Entrepreneurs was founded in 1991 through the magnanimous efforts of the late Kemmons Wilson, who was considered one of America's premier entrepreneurs, to foster the development of the entrepreneurial spirit and to recognize the contributions of entrepreneurs to business and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Entrepreneurs selected only five new members to join their organization this year, and these chosen individuals have demonstrated a gift for entrepreneurship in their professional endeavors, yet they have used this gift to enrich their respective communities as well; and

WHEREAS, Henry Turley has worked tirelessly to create good neighborhoods in the inner-city and to develop attractive housing in downtown Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable professional commendably preserved and improved the Shrine Building and the Cotton Exchange Building in downtown Memphis; he then developed the South Bluffs with condos and homes, and next turned to Mud Island to establish Harbor Town, now one of the most sought-after neighborhoods in the city; and

WHEREAS, holding a degree in Philosophy and History from the University of Tennessee, Henry Turley turned down a financially sound offer to work with Percy Galbreath & Son to found his own real estate development company; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turley's ultimate goal in developing his own business was to contribute significantly to the rebuilding of downtown Memphis; and

WHEREAS, by 1976, Mr. Turley had established Henry Turley Co. and had started working to revitalize the city from the inside out; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turley has received the highest of praise from Spence Wilson who chaired the committee that selected Henry Turley as Master Entrepreneur: "He has had a huge impact on the landscape of Memphis, particularly downtown. He was a real pioneer in all that when things like that weren't particularly popular"; Mr. Wilson has also correctly stated that we have Mr. Turley to be thankful to for the "groundswell" he created in the redevelopment of downtown Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turley epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of the distinguished members of the Society of Entrepreneurs, and he will be officially inducted into the Society and recognized for his contributions to Memphis's growth and development at the Society's annual awards ceremony; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Henry Turley for his remarkable accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Henry Turley for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and the good people of Memphis as a visionary and a developer, congratulate him on his induction into the Society of Entrepreneurs, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.